PERSPICA'CIOUSNESS. *n. ſ.* [from *perſpicaclous.*] Quickneſs of ſight.

PERSPICA'CITY. *n. ſ.* [*perſpicacité*, Fr.] Quickneſs of ſight.

He that laid the foundations of the earth cannot be excluded the ſecrecy of the mountains; nor can there any thing eſcape the *perſpicacity* of thoſe eyes, which were before light, and in whoſe opticks there is no opacity. *Brown.*

PERSPI'CIENCE. *n. ſ.* [*perſpiciens*, Lat.] The act of looking ſharply. *Dict.*

PE'RSPICIL. *n. ſ.* [*perſpicillum*, Lat.] A glaſs through which things are viewed; an optick glaſs.

Let truth be
Ne'er ſo far diſtant, yet chronology,
Sharp-ſighted as the eagle's eye, that can
Out-ſtare the broad-beam'd day's meridian,
Will have a *perſpicil* to find her out,
And through the night of error and dark doubt,
Diſcern the dawn of truth's eternal ray,
As when the roſy morn buds into day. *Craſhaw.*

The *perſpicil*, as well as the needle, hath enlarged the habitable world. *Glanvill's Sceſſ.*

PERSPICU'ITY. *n. ſ.* [*perſpicuité*, Fr. from *perſpicuous.*]

1. Clearneſs to the mind; eaſineſs to be underſtood; freedom from obſcurity or ambiguity.

The verſes containing precepts, have not ſo much need of ornament as of *perſpicuity*. *Dryden.*

*Perſpicuity* conſiſts in the uſing of proper terms for the thoughts, which a man would have paſs from his own mind into that of another's. *Locke's Thoughts on Reading.*

2. Tranſparency; tranſlucency; diaphaneity.

As for diaphaneity and *perſpicuity* it enjoyeth that moſt eminently, as having its earthy and ſalinous parts ſo exactly reſolved, that its body is left imporous. *Brown.*

PERSPI'CUOUS. *adj.* [*perſpicuus*, Latin.]

1. Tranſparent; clear; ſuch as may be ſeen through; diaphanous; tranſlucent; not opake.

As contrary cauſes produce the like effects, ſo even the ſame proceed from black and white; for the clear and *perſpicuous* body effecteth white, and that white a black. *Peacham.*

2. Clear to the underſtanding; not obſcure; not ambiguous.

The purpoſe is *perſpicuous* even as ſubſtance,
Whoſe groſſneſs little characters ſum up. *Shakeſp.*

All this is ſo *perſpicuous*, ſo undeniable, that I need not be over induſtrious in the proof of it. *Sprat's Sermons.*

PERSPI'CUOUSLY. *adv.* [from *perſpicuous.*] Clearly; not obſcurely.

The caſe is no ſooner made than reſolved; if it be made not enwrapped, but plainly and *perſpicuouſly*. *Bacon.*

PERSPICUOUSNESS. *n. ſ.* [from *perſpicuous.*] Clearneſs; freedom from obſcurity.

PERSPI'RABLE. *adj.* [from *perſpire.*]

1. Such as may be emitted by the cuticular pores.

That this attraction is performed by effluviums, is plain and granted by moſt; for electricks will not commonly attract, unleſs they attract or become *perſpirable*. *Brown.*

In an animal under a courſe of hard labour, aliment too vaporous or *perſpirable* will ſubject it to too ſtrong a perſpiration, debility and ſudden death. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*

2. Perſpiring; emitting perſpiration. Not proper.

Hair cometh not upon the palms of the hands or ſoles of the feet, which are parts more *perſpirable*: and children are not hairy, for that their ſkins are moſt *perſpirable*. *Bacon.*

PERSPIRA'TION. *n. ſ.* [from *perſpire.*] Excretion by the cuticular pores.

Inſenſible *perſpiration* is the laſt and moſt perfect action of animal digeſtion. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*

PERSPI'RATIVE. *adj.* [from *perſpire.*] Performing the act of perſpiration.

To PERSPI'RE. *v. n.* [*perſpiro*, Lat.]

1. To perform excretion by the cuticular pores

2. To be excreted by the ſkin.

Water, milk, whey taken without much exerciſe, ſo as to make them *perſpire*, relax the belly. *Arbuthnot.*

To PERSTRI'NGE. *v. a.* [*perſtringo*, Lat.] To graze upon; to glance upon. *Dict.*

PERSUA'DABLE. *adj.* [from *perſuade.*] Such as may be perſuaded.

To PERSUA'DE. *v. a.* [*perſuadeo*, Lat. *perſuader*, Fr.]

1. To bring to any particular opinion.

Let every man be fully *perſuaded* in his own mind. *Romans.*

We are *perſuaded* better things of you, and things that accompany ſalvation. *Hebrews* vi. 9.

Joy over them that are *perſuaded* to ſalvation. 2 *Eſdras* vii.

Let a man be ever ſo well *perſuaded* of the advantages of virtue, yet, till he hungers and thirſts after righteouſneſs, his will will not be determined to any action in purſuit of this confeſſed great good. *Locke.*

Men ſhould ſeriouſly *perſuade* themſelves, that they have here no abiding place, but are only in their paſſage to the heavenly Jeruſalem. *Wake's Preparation for Death.*



2. To influence by argument or expoſtulation. *Perſuaſion* ſeems rather applicable to the paſſions, and *argument* to the reaſon; but this is not always obſerved.

Philoclea's beauty not only *perſuaded*, but ſo *perſuaded* as all hearts muſt yield: Pamela's beauty uſed violence, and ſuch as no heart could reſiſt. *Sidney.*

They that were with Simon, being led with covetouſneſs, were *perſuaded* for money. 2 *Mac.* x. 20.

To ſit croſs-leg'd, or with our fingers pectinated, is accounted bad, and friends will *perſuade* us from it. *Brown.*

I ſhould be glad, if I could *perſuade* him to write ſuch another critick on any thing of mine; for when he condemns any of my poems, he makes the world have a better opinion of them. *Dryden.*

3. To inculcate by argument or expoſtulation.

To children, afraid of vain images, we *perſuade* confidence by making them handle and look nearer ſuch things. *Taylor.*

4. To treat by perſuaſion. A mode of ſpeech not in uſe.

Twenty merchants have all *perſuaded* with him;
But none can drive him from the envious plea
Of forfeiture. *Shakeſpeare.*

PERSUA'DER. *n. ſ.* [from *perſuade.*] One who influences by perſuaſion; an importunate adviſer.

The earl, ſpeaking in that imperious language wherein the king had written, did not irritate the people, but make them conceive by the haughtineſs of delivery of the king's errand, that himſelf was the author or principal *perſuader* of that counſel. *Bacon's Henry* VII.

He ſoon is mov'd
By ſuch *perſuaders* as are held upright. *Daniel's Civil War.*
Hunger and thirſt at once,
Pow'rful *perſuaders!* quicken'd at the ſcent
Of that alluring fruit, urg'd me ſo keen. *Milton.*

PERSUA'SIBLE. *adj.* [*perſuaſibilis*, Lat. *perſuaſible*, Fr. from *perſuadeo*, Latin.] To be influenced by perſuaſion.

It makes us apprehend our own intereſt in that obedience, makes us tractable and *perſuaſible*, contrary to that bruiſh ſtubborneſs of the horſe and mule, which the Pſalmiſt reproaches. *Government of the Tongue.*

PERSUA'SIBLENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *perſuaſible.*] The quality of being flexible by perſuaſion.

PERSUA'SION. *n. ſ.* [*perſuaſion*, Fr. from *perſuaſus*, Lat.]

1. The act of perſuading; the act of influencing by expoſtulation; the act of gaining or attempting the paſſions.

If't prove thy fortune, Polydore, to conquer,
For thou haſt all the arts of fine *perſuaſion*,
Truſt me, and let me know thy love's ſucceſs. *Otway.*

2. The ſtate of being perſuaded; opinion.

The moſt certain token of evident goodneſs is, if the general *perſuaſion* of all men does ſo account it. *Hooker.*

You are a great deal abus'd in too bold a *perſuaſion*. *Shakeſpeare.*

When we have no other certainty of being in the right, but our own *perſuaſions* that we are ſo; this may often be but making one error the gage for another. *Gov. of the Tongue.*

The obedient and the men of practice ſhall ride upon thoſe clouds, and triumph over their preſent imperfections; till *perſuaſion* paſs into knowledge, and knowledge advance into aſſurance, and all come at length to be compleated in the beatifick viſion. *South's Sermons.*

PERSUA'SIVE. *adj.* [*perſuaſif*, Fr. from *perſuade.*] Having the power of perſuading; having influence on the paſſions.

In prayer, we do not ſo much reſpect what precepts art delivereth, touching the method of *perſuaſive* utterance in the preſence of great men, as what doth moſt avail to our own edification in piety and godly zeal. *Hooker.*

Let Martius reſume his farther diſcourſe, as well for the *perſuaſive* as for the conſult, touching the means that may conduce unto the enterprize. *Bacon.*

Notwithſtanding the weight and fitneſs of the arguments to perſuade, and the light of man's intellect to meet this *perſuaſive* evidence with a ſuitable aſſent, no aſſent followed, nor were men thereby actually perſuaded. *South's Sermons.*

PERSUA'SIVELY. *adv.* [from *perſuaſive.*] In ſuch a manner as to perſuade.

The ſerpent with me
*Perſuaſively* hath ſo prevail'd, that I
Have alſo taſted. *Milton.*

Many who live upon their eſtates cannot ſo much as tell a ſtory, much leſs ſpeak clearly and *perſuaſively* in any buſineſs. *Locke on Education.*

PERSUA'SIVENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *perſuaſive.*] Influence on the paſſions.

An opinion of the ſucceſsfulneſs of the work being as neceſſary to found a purpoſe of undertaking it, as either the authority of commands, or the *perſuaſiveneſs* of promiſes, or pungency of menaces can be. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*

PERSUA'SORY. *adj.* [*perſuaſorius*, Lat. from *perſuade.*] Having the power to perſuade.

Neither is this *perſuaſory*. *Brown.*

PERT.



PERT *adj.* [*pert*, Welſh; *pert*, Dutch; *appert*, French.]

1. Lively; briſk; ſmart.

Awake the *pert* and nimble ſpirit of mirth;
Turn melancholy forth to funerals. *Shakeſp.*
On the tawny ſands and ſhelves,
Trip the *pert* fairies and the dapper elves. *Milton.*

2. Saucy; petulant; with bold and garrulous loquacity.

All ſervants might challenge the ſame liberty, and grow *pert* upon their maſters; and when this ſaucineſs became univerſal, what leſs miſchief could be expected than an old Scythian rebellion? *Collier on Pride.*

A lady bids me in a very *pert* manner mind my own affairs, and not pretend to meddle with their linnen. *Addiſon.*

Vaneſſa
Scarce liſt'ned to their idle chat,
Further than ſometimes by a frown,
When they grew *pert*, to pull them down. *Swift.*

To PERTAIN. *v. n.* [*pertineo*, Lat.] To belong; to relate.

As men hate thoſe that affect that honour by ambition, which *pertaineth* not to them, ſo are they much more odious, who through fear betray the glory which they have. *Hayward.*

A cheveron or rafter of an houſe, a very honourable bearing, is never ſeen in the coat of a king, becauſe it *pertaineth* to a mechanical profeſſion. *Peacham.*

PERTEREBRA'TION. *n. ſ.* [*per* and *terebratio*, Lat.] The act of boring through. *Ainſworth.*

PERTINA'CIOUS. *adj.* [from *pertinax.*]

1. Obſtinate; ſtubborn; perverſely reſolute.

One of the diſſenters appeared to Dr. Sanderſon to be ſo bold, ſo troubleſome and illogical in the diſpute, as forced him to ſay, that he had never met with a man of more *pertinacious* confidence and leſs abilities. *Walton.*

2. Reſolute; conſtant; ſteady.

Diligence is a ſteady, conſtant and *pertinacious* ſtudy, that naturally leads the ſoul into the knowledge of that, which at firſt ſeemed locked up from it. *South's Sermons.*

PERTINA'CIOUSLY. *adv.* [from *pertinacious.*] Obſtinately; ſtubbornly.

They deny that freedom to me, which they *pertinaciouſly* challenge to themſelves. *King Charles.*

Metals *pertinaciouſly* reſiſt all tranſmutation; and though one would think they were turned into a different ſubſtance, yet they do but as it were lurk under a vizard. *Ray.*

Others have fought to eaſe themſelves of all the evil of affliction by diſputing ſubtilly againſt it, and *pertinaciouſly* maintaining, that afflictions are no real evils, but only in imagination. *Tillotſon's Sermons.*

PERTINA'CITY. } *n. ſ.* [*pertinacia*, Lat. from *pertina-*
PERTINA'CIOUSNESS. } *cious.*]

1. Obſtinacy; ſtubbornneſs.

In this reply, was included a very groſs miſtake, and if with *pertinacity* maintained, a capital errour. *Brown.*

2. Reſolution; conſtancy.

PE'RTINACY. *n. ſ.* [from *pertinax.*]

1. Obſtinacy; ſtubbornneſs; perſiſtency.

Their *pertinacy* is ſuch, that when you drive them out of one form, they aſſume another. *Duppa.*

It holds forth the *pertinacy* of ill fortune, in purſuing people into their graves. *L'Eſtrange.*

2. Reſolution; ſteadineſs; conſtancy.

St. Gorgonia prayed with paſſion and *pertinacy*, till ſhe obtained relief. *Taylor.*

They with a *pertinacy* unmatch'd,
For new recruits of danger watch'd. *Hudibras.*

PE'RTINENCE. } *n. ſ.* [from *pertineo*, Lat.] Juſtneſs of rela-
PE'RTINENCY. } tion to the matter in hand; propriety to the purpoſe; appoſiteneſs.

I have ſhewn the fitneſs and *pertinency* of the apoſtle's diſcourſe to the perſons he addreſſed to, whereby it appeareth that he was no babbler, and did not talk at random. *Bentley.*

PE'RTINENT. *adj.* [*pertinens*, Lat. *pertinent*, Fr.]

1. Related to the matter in hand; juſt to the purpoſe; not uſeleſs to the end propoſed; appoſite; not foreign from the thing intended.

My caution was more *pertinent*
Than the rebuke you give it. *Shakeſp. Coriolanus.*

I ſet down, out of experience in buſineſs, and converſation in books, what I thought *pertinent* to this buſineſs. *Bacon.*

Here I ſhall ſeem a little to digreſs, but you will by and by find it *pertinent*. *Bacon.*

If he could find *pertinent* treatiſes of it in books, that would reach all the particulars of a man's behaviour; his own ill-faſhioned example would ſpoil all. *Locke.*

2. Relating; regarding; concerning. In this ſenſe the word now uſed is *pertaining*.

Men ſhall have juſt cauſe, when any thing *pertinent* unto faith and religion is doubted of, the more willingly to incline their minds towards that which the ſentence of ſo grave, wiſe and learned in that faculty ſhall judge moſt ſound. *Hooker.*

PE'RTINENTLY. *adv.* [from *pertinent.*] Appoſitely; to the purpoſe.

Be modeſt and reſerved in the preſence of thy betters, ſpeaking little, anſwering *pertinently*, not interpoſing without leave or reaſon. *Taylor's Rule of Living Holy.*

PE'RTINENTNESS. *n. ſ.* [from *pertinent.*] Appoſiteneſs. *Dict.*

PERTI'NGENT. *adj.* [*pertingens*, Lat.] Reaching to; touching. *Dict.*

PE'RTLY. *adv.* [from *pert.*]

1. Briſkly; ſmartly.

I find no other difference betwixt the common town-wits and the downright country fools, than that the firſt are *pertly* in the wrong, with a little more gaiety; and the laſt neither in the right nor the wrong. *Pope.*

2. Saucily; petulantly.

Yonder walls, that *pertly* front your town,
Yond towers, whoſe wanton tops do buſs the clouds,
Muſt kiſs their own feet. *Shakeſpeare.*

When you *pertly* raiſe your ſnout,
Fleer, and gibe, and laugh, and ſtout;
This, among Hibernian aſſes,
For ſheer wit, and humour paſſes. *Swift.*

PE'RTNESS. *n. ſ.* [from *pert.*]

1. Briſk folly; ſaucineſs; petulance.

Dulneſs delighted ey'd the lively dunce,
Remembring ſhe herſelf was *pertneſs* once. *Dunciad.*

2. Petty livelineſs; ſpritelineſs without force, dignity or ſolidity.

There is in Shaftſbury's works a lively *pertneſs* and a parade of literature; but it is hard that we ſhould be bound to admire the reveries. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

PERTRA'NSIENT. *adj.* [*pertranſiens*, Lat.] Paſſing over. *Dict.*

To PERTU'RB. } *v. a.* [*perturbo*, Latin.]
To PERTU'RBATE. }

1. To diſquiet; to diſturb; to deprive of tranquility.

Reſt, reſt, *perturbed* ſpirit. *Shakeſp.*

His waſting fleſh with anguiſh burns,
And his *perturbed* ſoul within him mourns. *Sandys.*

2. To diſorder; to confuſe; to put out of regularity.

They are content to ſuffer the penalties annexed, rather than *perturb* the publick peace. *King Charles.*

The inſervient and brutal faculties controul'd the ſuggeſtions of truth; pleaſure and profit overſwaying the inſtructions of honeſty, and ſenſuality *perturbing* the reaſonable commands of virtue. *Brown's Vulgar Errours.*

The acceſſion or ſeceſſion of bodies from the earth's ſurface *perturb* not the equilibration of either hemiſphere. *Brown.*

PERTURBA'TION. *n. ſ.* [*perturbatio*, Lat. *perturbation*, Fr.]

1. Diſquiet of mind; deprivation of tranquillity.

Love was not in their looks, either to God,
Nor to each other; but apparent guilt,
And ſhame, and *perturbation*, and deſpair. *Milton.*

The ſoul as it is more immediately and ſtrongly affected by this part, ſo doth it manifeſt all its paſſions and *perturbations* by it. *Ray on the Creation.*

2. Reſtleſſneſs of paſſions.

Natures, that have much heat, and great and violent deſires and *perturbations*, are not ripe for action, till they have paſſed the meridian of their years. *Bacon's Eſſays.*

3. Diſturbance; diſorder; confuſion; commotion.

Although the long diſſentions of the two houſes had had lucid intervals, yet they did ever hang over the kingdom, ready to break forth into new *perturbations* and calamities. *Bacon.*

4. Cauſe of diſquiet.

O poliſh'd *perturbation!* golden care!
That keep'ſt the ports of ſlumber open wide
To many a watchful night: ſleep with it now,
Yet not ſo found, and half ſo deeply ſweet,
As he, whoſe brow with homely biggen bound,
Sleeps out the watch of night. *Shakeſp. Henry* IV.

5. Commotion of paſſions.

Reſtore yourſelves unto your temper, fathers;
And, without *perturbation*, hear me ſpeak. *Ben. Johnſon.*

PERTURBA'TOR. *n. ſ.* [*perturbator*, Lat. *perturbateur*, Fr.] Raiſer of commotions.

PERTU'SED. *adj.* [*pertuſus*, Lat.] Bored; punched; pierced with holes. *Dict.*

PERTU'SION. *n. ſ.* [from *pertuſus*, Latin.]

1. The act of piercing or punching.

The manner of opening a vein in Hippocrates's time, was by ſtabbing or *pertuſion*, as it is performed in horſes. *Arbuth.*

2. Hole made by punching or piercing.

An empty pot without earth in it, may be put over a fruit the better, if ſome few *pertuſions* be made in the pot. *Bacon.*

To PERVA'DE. *v. a.* [*pervado*, Lat.]

1. To paſs through an aperture; to permeate.

The labour'd chyle *pervades* the pores
In all the arterial perforated ſhores. *Blackmore.*

Paper dipped in water or oil, the oculus mundi ſtone ſteeped in water, linen-cloth oiled or varniſhed, and many other ſubſtances ſoaked in ſuch liquors as will intimately *pervade* their little pores, become by that means more tranſparent than otherwiſe. *Newton's Opticks.*



SAMUEL JOHNSON *A Dictionary of the English Language* LONDON, 1755 THE WARNOCK LIBRARY Octavo